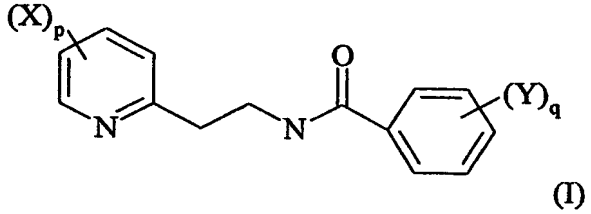
CLAIMS

1. Compound of general formula (I):



(I)

in which

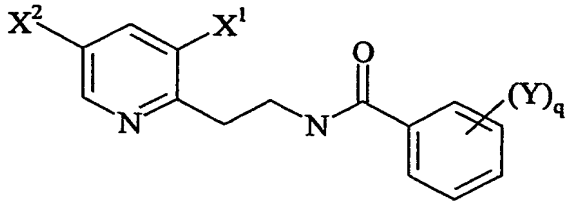
- p is an integer equal to 1, 2, 3 or 4;
- q is an integer equal to 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;
- each substituent X is chosen, independently of the others, as being halogen, alkyl or haloalkyl, at least one of the substituents being a haloalkyl;
- each substituent Y is chosen, independently of the others, as being halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, amino, phenoxy, alkylthio, dialkylamino, acyl, cyano, ester, hydroxy, aminoalkyl, benzyl, haloalkoxy, halosulphonyl, halothioalkyl, alkoxyalkenyl, alkylsulphonamide, nitro, alkylsulphonyl, phenylsulphonyl or benzylsulphonyl;

as to the N-oxides of 2-pyridine thereof;

with the exception of N-{2-[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinyl]ethyl}-2,6-dichlorobenzamide.

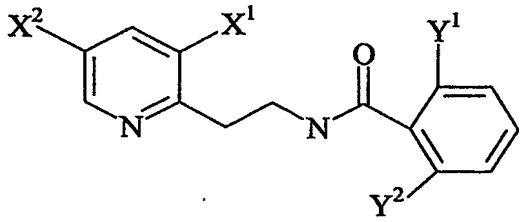
2. Compound according to Claim 1, characterised in that p is equal to 2.

3. Compound according to Claim 2, characterised in that the substituents X are positioned as follows:



4. Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterised in that q is chosen equal to 1 or 2, the substituent(s) Y being positioned in the ortho position of the benzene ring.

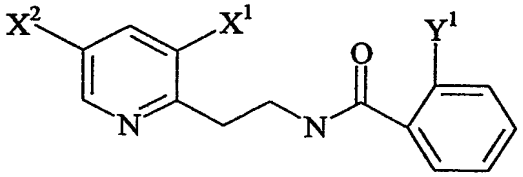
5. Compound according to Claim 4, characterised in that it corresponds to general formula (I'):



(I')

6. Compound according to Claim 5, characterised in that X^1 is halogen and X^2 is haloalkyl.

7. Compound according to Claim 4, characterised in that it corresponds to general formula (I''):



(I'')

8. Compound according to Claim 7, characterised in that it has the following characteristics, taken individually or in combination:
- X^1 is chosen as being halogen and X^2 is chosen as being haloalkyl;
- Y^1 is chosen as being halogen or haloalkyl.

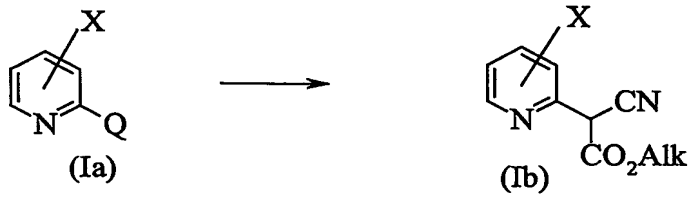
9. Compound according to Claim 8, characterised in that haloalkyl group is trifluoromethyl.

10. Compound according to Claim 9, characterised in that the compound of formula (I'') is:
- N-{2-[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinyl]ethyl}-2-trifluoromethylbenzamide;
- N-{2-[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinyl]ethyl}-2-iodobenzamide; or
- N-{2-[3-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinyl]ethyl}-2-bromobenzamide.

11. Process for the preparation of a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 10, characterised in that it comprises :

- a first step consisting in reacting, in the presence of a base in aprotic polar solvent, a compound of general formula (Ia) in order to substitute it selectively in the 2-position:

* either with a group of the alkyl cyanoacetate type ($NC-CH_2-CO_2Alk$) to produce a compound of general formula (Ib) according to the following reaction scheme:

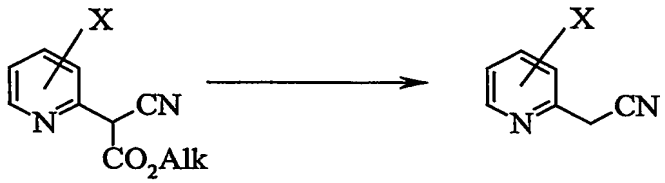


(Ia) (Ib)

where: - X is as defined where Y is as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 9;

- Alk represents an alkyl radical;
- Q is a nucleofugal radical;

the compound of general formula (Ib) thus obtained then undergoing dealkyloxycarbonylation in the presence of an alkali metal halide, such as Li-halogen, K-halogen or Na-halogen, at the reflux of a water/dimethyl sulphoxide mixture, according to the Krapcho reaction to produce the compound of general formula (Ic) according to the following reaction scheme:



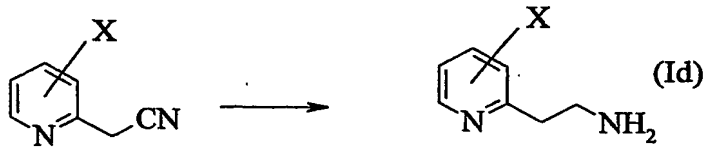
(Ib) (Ic)

* or with acetonitrile to directly produce the compound of general formula (Ic) according to the following reaction scheme:

(Ia) (Ic)

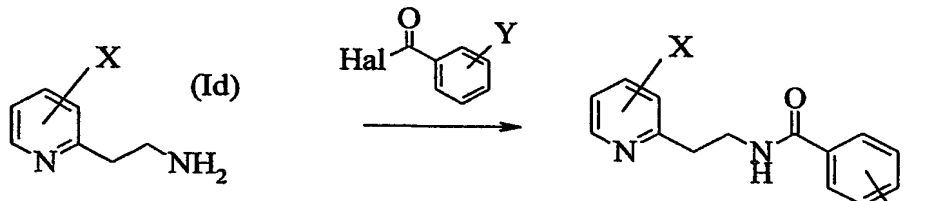
- a second step consisting in the reduction of the compound of general formula (Ic) to

pyridylethanamine of general formula (Id) (or its corresponding ammonium salt depending on whether or not the medium is acid) under hydrogen pressure in the presence of a metal catalyst in a protic solvent according to the following reaction scheme:



(Ic) (Id) or corresponding ammonium

- a third step consisting in converting the compound of general formula (Id) to a compound of general formula (I) by reaction with a benzoyl halide in the presence of a base according to the following reaction scheme:



(Id) or corresponding ammonium (I)

where Y is as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 9.

12. Process according to Claim 11, characterised in that the nucleofugal radical Q is a halogen or trifluoromethanesulphonate.

13. Fungicidal composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to any of the claims 1 to 10 and an agriculturally acceptable support.

14. Fungicidal composition according to claim 13 further comprising a surfactant.

15. Fungicidal composition according to either of claims 13 and 14, comprising from 0.05% to 99% by weight of active material.

16. Method for preventively or curatively combating the phytopathogenic fungi of crops, characterised in that an effective and non-phytotoxic amount of a composition according to any of the claims 13 to 15 is applied to the plant seeds or to the plant leaves and/or to the fruits of the plants or to the soil in which the plants are

growing or in which it is desired to grow them.